

RECOGNIZING CALEB D. HENDERSON FOR THE AWARD OF EAGLE SCOUT

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 4, 2007

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Caleb D. Henderson, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, and by earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Caleb has been very active with his troop, participating in many Scout activities. Over the years Caleb has been involved in Scouting, he has earned 27 merit badges and held numerous leadership positions, serving as Assistant Senior Patrol Leader. Caleb is also an Ordeal Member of the Order of the Arrow and earned the World Conservation Award in February 2007.

For his Eagle Scout project, Caleb designed and trained Scouts in concrete work and supervised the construction of a dumpster pad facility for North Oak Christian Church in Kansas City. Caleb has also attended the H. Roe Bartle Scout Reservation, and three camps and two Klondike Derbys.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Caleb D. Henderson for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 2272,
AMERICA COMPETES ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2007

Ms. McCOLLUM of Minnesota. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 2272, the 21st Century Competitiveness Act.

I want to commend my colleagues on both sides of the aisle for working together on this important legislation that responds to the global economic challenges our country faces. This bill ensures that American students, teachers, businesses, and workers are prepared to continue leading the world in innovation, research, and technology well into the future.

In order for the United States to remain competitive in the global economy, we must invest in education. This bill will allow more students to be trained in math, science, engineering, and technology education through quality, innovative teacher-training programs. As a result, our future generation will be able to transform ideas into new technologies that will boost our economy and create good jobs here at home.

Sadly over the last decade, U.S. Federal funding for research and development has declined steadily. H.R. 2272 makes a renewed commitment to independent scientific research by increasing funding for the National Science Foundation, NSF, the National Institute of Standards and Technology, NIST, and the Department of Energy's Office of Science. This

bill provides grants for outstanding researchers and coordinates research ideas and infrastructure needs between universities, national labs, and Government agencies.

In addition, creating a new energy policy is a top priority for the new Democratic majority. Clean energy technologies will create high-paying American jobs, strengthen our national security, lower costs for consumers, and reduce global warming. The 21st Century Competitiveness Act strengthens our national commitment to energy research and innovation by creating a new Advanced Research Agency for Energy, ARPA-E.

Finally, H.R. 2272 increases support for innovative entrepreneurs. Small businesses are often the catalyst for new innovations; however these businesses face significant obstacles that limit their efforts to transform ideas into reality. This bill increases funding for the Manufacturing Extension Partnership, MEP, and also creates the Technology Innovation Program, TIP, that supports small businesses that are developing technologies that will benefit our country and world.

I urge my colleagues to join me in support of this critical legislation that ensures the United States' global competitiveness.

HONORING NORTH LAKE COLLEGE
FOR 30 YEARS OF EDUCATIONAL
EXCELLENCE

HON. KENNY MARCHANT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 4, 2007

Mr. MARCHANT. Madam Speaker, today I rise to honor North Lake College in celebration of its 30th anniversary of educational excellence.

North Lake College's main campus is set on 276 acres in Irving-Las Colinas business center. The college has expanded its facilities to provide diverse services and programs for its students. From the construction of an expanded Science and Medical Professions Building, a Workforce Development Center, and a General Purpose Building on the main campus to satellite campuses in downtown Irving, the South Irving Center and the Dallas-Fort Worth Education Center, North Lake is continually meeting the needs of its students and community.

Since opening its doors in the Fall of 1977, North Lake has increased its enrollment from 2,823 students to 9,415 credit students in the Fall of 2006. It is an accredited public community college with an open door admission policy. As part of the Dallas County Community College District, North Lake is committed to "Closing the Gaps" a Texas state initiative to continually increase enrollment goals for all population groups. Today, North Lake College serves approximately 23,000 credit students and 12,000 continuing education students.

North Lake College's expert planning and partnerships has contributed to its success in offering students a variety of occupational and degree programs preparing them for employment in the workforce or transferring to any Texas public university or college. North Lake offers degrees in Associate of Arts, Associate of Science, and Associate of Applied Sciences in more than 24 areas of study. In addition to the degree programs, students can earn certifications in more than 60 career fields.

North Lake College's 30th anniversary is worthy of recognition. Its beautiful campuses, its diverse and growing enrollment, and its wide array of educational degree and certification programs are all a testament of educational excellence. I am honored to represent such a respected collegiate institution in the 24th District of Texas.

AARON ADDISON TAYLOR FOR
THE AWARD OF EAGLE SCOUT

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 4, 2007

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Aaron Addison Taylor, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, and by earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Aaron has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the years Aaron has been involved in scouting, he has earned 25 merit badges and held numerous leadership positions, serving as Quartermaster and Senior Patrol Leader. Aaron is also an Ordeal Member of the Order of the Arrow and entered the Tribe of Mic-O-Say as Brave Unyielding Rock in 2006 and elevated to Hardway Warrior in 2007.

For his Eagle Scout project, Aaron designed and procured materials for and supervised the construction of "no-stoop" garden planter boxes for residents of the Kansas City Garden Village assisted living community. Aaron has also attended the H. Roe Bartle Scout Reservation, and 3-year attendance at District Camporee and Klondike Derbies.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Aaron Addison Taylor for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

CONGRATULATING COLT KNOST
FOR U.S. AMATEUR VICTORY

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 4, 2007

Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Pilot Point native Colt Knost on his victory at the 107th U.S. Amateur Championship. Knost defeated Michael Thompson, 2 and 1, in the 36-hole final match.

The Amateur is one of 13 national championships conducted annually by the United States Golf Association, 10 of which are strictly for amateurs. The USGA is the national governing body of golf in this country and Mexico, a combined territory that includes more than half the game's golfers and golf courses.

Colt Knost, 22, played at Southern Methodist University. With this victory, Knost became the sixth golfer in history to win two USGA championships in the same season, and the second to win the Amateur and the Amateur Public Links in the same year. Knost

has a very tough decision ahead of him for he must decide if he will wait to use those amateur berths at Augusta and Torrey Pines or if he will turn pro.

I would like to offer my sincerest congratulations to Mr. Colt Knost. His commitment to being the best in his sport shows that drive and dedication can make the difference between good and great. I wish him success in the future, and I am very proud to have him as a constituent of the 26th District of Texas.

LILLY LEDBETTER FAIR PAY ACT OF 2007

SPEECH OF

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 31, 2007

Ms. McCOLLUM of Minnesota. Madam Speaker, I rise today in strong support of the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act to restore important protections for victims of pay discrimination.

On May 29, 2007, in a 5-4 ruling the Supreme Court issued a decision in the case of Ledbetter v. Goodyear making it much more difficult for workers discriminated against on the basis of sex, race, color, religion, national origin, or age to sue their employers because of disparate pay.

In this decision, the Court ruled that Lilly Ledbetter, a former supervisor at a tire plant in Alabama, was not eligible to receive back pay for pay discrimination because she had not filed her claim within 180 days after the first "unlawful employment practice occurred."

However, as Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg highlighted in her dissent, pay discrimination occurs over time in small increments and is frequently not discovered for many years. It is more than disappointing that this decision increases the barriers to fair compensation for victims of pay discrimination.

The Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act, of which I am a cosponsor, will allow pay discrimination claims to be filed within 180 days of the issuance of any discriminatory paycheck, not necessarily the first paycheck as the Supreme Court ruled. This legislation restores the previously established interpretation of Title VII of the Civil Rights Act.

H.R. 2831 makes it clear to employers and employees alike that pay discrimination is unacceptable. It is unacceptable from the moment the first discriminatory paycheck is issued until the day that worker receives the compensation s/he earned.

Madam Speaker, pay discrimination is unjust and it is illegal. I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting fairness for working families and voting for H.R. 2831.

CHRISTOPHER AUSTIN GROSSMAN FOR THE AWARD OF EAGLE SCOUT

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 4, 2007

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Christopher Austin Gross-

man, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, and by earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Christopher has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the years Christopher has been involved in scouting, he has earned 34 merit badges and held numerous leadership positions, serving as Instructor, Patrol Leader and Troop Scribe. Christopher is also an Ordeal Member of the Order of the Arrow and entered the Tribe of Mic-O-Say as Brave Fierce Striking Sandstorm and elevated to Hardway Warrior in 2004. He has also earned the World Conservation Award in February 2003.

For his Eagle Scout project, Christopher designed and procured materials for and supervised the construction of a storage outbuilding for Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 7356 in Parkville, Missouri. Christopher has also attended the H. Roe Bartle Scout Reservation, and three year attendance at District Camporee and Klondike Derbys.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Christopher Austin Grossman for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

HONORING THE RETIREMENT OF JOE HENNIG AS THE EULESS CITY MANAGER

HON. KENNY MARCHANT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 4, 2007

Mr. MARCHANT. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Mr. Joe Hennig on the occasion of his retirement on October 1, 2007 after fifteen years of commendable public service. Prior to his appointment as Euless City Manager in 1999, Mr. Hennig began working in Euless as director of development services, assistant city manager and deputy city manager. He also spent twenty-three years with Texas Utilities.

A capable leader, Mr. Hennig has been a guiding force behind many businesses and economic developments in the City of Euless. He facilitated the transformation and improvement of the City's Main Street corridor as well as every major thoroughfare in Euless including Harwood Road, Industrial Boulevard, Pipeline Road and Glade Road. Mr. Hennig also brokered a deal with the Dallas/Fort Worth Airport securing millions of dollars in tax revenue, which in 2002, was used to construct a new police and courts building on Texas 10. Due to Hennig's strategic business foresight, numerous new businesses have opened along Texas Highway 121.

Mr. Joe Hennig has been involved with numerous civic organizations such as the United Way, the Chamber of Commerce, the Boy Scouts of America, the Rotary Club and the YMCA. In addition, he has been an active member in many municipality associations, the most recent of which include North Texas City Management Association, Texas City Management Association, and International City Management Association.

He and his wife, Jan, have a daughter, Shay and a son, Brandon. He also has six

beautiful grandchildren: Isabella, Ava, Jack, Carlie, Claire, and Clint.

Madam Speaker, in closing, I would like to extend my gratitude to Joe Hennig for his numerous years of service and dedication to the City of Euless. His leadership will be greatly missed but his vision for a brighter future for Euless will live forever. I am proud to serve him in the 24th District of Texas.

IN MEMORY OF BOBBY WEBBER

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 4, 2007

Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in memory of Bobby Webber, a former state representative from Fort Worth.

Mr. Webber was born Sept. 16, 1937, in Madisonville, Texas. After his family moved to Fort Worth, in the 1940s, he served for five terms in the City Council. After attending Howard University, Mr. Webber joined the Army in 1959, serving in the 101st Airborne as a paratrooper. He was discharged in 1962 and received a bachelor's degree in business administration from the University of North Texas, my alma mater.

Over the years, Mr. Webber built up several business interests in Fort Worth, including Angelic Webber Funeral Home, Eastwood Village Nursing Home and a family-owned Insurance company.

A continued advocate for Fort Worth's African-American community, Mr. Webber won a seat in the Texas House. He understood the needs of his constituents and represented them with commitment and enthusiasm.

Mr. Webber's dedication to Fort Worth was not simply a matter of politics; it was a matter of heart. He served as pastor of Greater St. James Baptist Church in Fort Worth and Community Missionary Baptist Church in Arlington.

His survivors include his mother, Charlie Mae Webber of Fort Worth; two sisters, Joann Breedlove and Janyce Avery, both of Fort Worth; a brother, Joseph Webber of Fort Worth; and a daughter, Vanessa Jean Webber, and grandson, Alvin James III, of Atlanta.

I would like to recognize Mr. Webber for his tremendous service to Fort Worth and his fellow man. His spirit of fairness and equality should be seen as an example to us all. I was honored to have represented him in the U.S. House of Representatives.

HONEST LEADERSHIP OPEN GOVERNMENT ACT OF 2007

SPEECH OF

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 31, 2007

Ms. McCOLLUM of Minnesota. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the Honest Leadership Open Government Act and commend Speaker PELOSI and Chairman CONYERS for their work to take this important step to restore accountability to Washington and implement this much-needed reform.

S. 1 puts the priorities of American families before special interests, bringing real transparency to lobbyists' activities by doubling the